

D-1191

(C.I.D.) Office Notes

May 4, 1930.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POL'
C. I. D. REGISTRY
File No. *No. 2. a. D. 1191.*
Date *7. 5. 30.*

I wish to direct special attention to attached article which appears today, May 4, in the "China Times", a newspaper which on the whole is friendly towards the Municipal Council and foreigners generally.

J. H. Givens
Officer in charge,
Special Branch.

D. C. (Cr. & Sp. Branches)

*Noted
J. H. Givens
J. H.*

10 10 10

Translation of extract from "China Times" of May 4, 1930.

"Over half a month has elapsed since the workers of the "China General Omnibus Company went on strike. As both the "employers and the workers have assumed a firm attitude, the "men have attempted to extend the strike in order to attract "the attention of the general public. The employers, however, "are training substitutes such as "White" Russians with a view "to rejecting the exorbitant demands of the workers.

"1. The "White" Russians do not understand the Chinese "language, and as they are strangers it is doubtful if they "can perform their duties in an efficient manner, especially "in a cosmopolitan city like Shanghai. As they have been "unemployed for a long time and belong to an undesirable class, "misunderstandings with passengers are likely to occur.

"2. The cost of living for "White" Russians is higher than "that for Chinese workers. If the scale of pay of the Chinese "workmen be raised, the management will incur heavier "responsibilities, whereas if discrimination in favour of the "Russians is shown, ill-feeling ~~will~~ is likely to arise "amongst the Chinese workers.

"3. The best policy is for capitalists and labourers to "assume a ~~firm~~ conciliatory attitude but if each side assume "a firm and obstinate attitude, untoward incidents are likely "to arise.

"4. Since the slump in silver, people have experienced "hardship in maintaining their living and the number of "unemployed workers has increased. If "White" Russians are "are employed, it amounts to an oppression of Chinese workers "and great excitement will be created.

"A fundamental solution of the problem is for both parties "to manifest sincerity, explain its difficulties and assume "a conciliatory attitude."

**THE CHINA GENERAL
OMNIBUS CO., LTD.**

(Incorporated under the Companies'
Ordinances, Hongkong)

THE Company proposes to operate
a service from St. George's to
Garden Bridge via Bubbling Well
and Nanking Roads as from 5th
May, 1930.

This service is intended to assist
passengers who require transport
over the longer distances, and with
a view to facilitating the handling
of traffic it is proposed to charge
a flat rate for any distance of
THIRTY COPPERS.

These arrangements are only of
an emergency nature.

*o/c Special Branch
Information*

4/5/30

*D.G. (Grand Sp. Branches),
Information*

*J.R.
4/5/30.*

D.R. 1/5/30.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

REPORT

File No.	
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL P.	
CORDON REGIST.	
No. I. O. D. 1191	Station.
Date April 30	1930.
2 - 5 - 30	

Subject (in full) Further to Bus Drivers strike and Conductors

Made by D.S.I. Crawford.

Forwarded by

Shilly mpt

Sir,

The strike of the drivers continues, nothing further having developed, 10 additional conductors have reported for duty at the Depot office and are attending every day.

A letter was received by Moh Kyi Zien (马积贤), compradore of the Bus Company, who lives at 56 Tien Dong Road, Meu Yuen Lee Alleyway, off Dixwell Road (茂源里五十六号, 大通路近外愚咸路), Chapei. (Dixwell Road vicinity) in which they caution him to be careful. This letter was received by the compradore at the Depot office, on the morning of 30/4/30. Translation and letter attached.

This letter is aftermath of the meeting between the representatives and Mr. Benner on the 27/4/30, in which Moh Kyi Zien, acted as interpreter, and it is believed by the drivers that he has gone back on his word, as what was promised in the office was not posted outside the gate believing him to be responsible for the notice being not posted.

The drawing attached to the letter is a vindication of the drivers feeling towards the Manager.

E. Crawford.
D.S.I.

Translation of a letter addressed to Moh Kyi Zien,
Compradore of Bus Company.

To Mr. Kyi Zien,

The strike which we have carried out is entirely different from the one we had before. The object of our present strike is to obtain privilege of the Chinese employees of the Company, numbering to several hundred, and moreover the drivers have been ill-treated by the British people. After such strike has been started, the attitude of the management is much severe than before, it is due to the "running dogs" who have influenced the management, for which reason we have already fore-seen. The foreigners would not have been so "bold" to employ Russians to be our substitutes. The plots of those traitorous thieves have so far been "spoiled" by us owing to our perseverance. The latter have now tried to put us into dangerous state by getting touch with the three representatives, but through our "quick" information, we have not fallen into their trap. If you dare to make your appearance before us, we will have suitable steps towards you, or our grievance cannot be ceased, and you all shall meet with some untoward affair.

This is a warning from us.

From all Drivers.

M. J. Zemer

Moh Kij Zien
conductor

representation of Xisier.

代
家
安

大
家
代
家
安

積乾先生馬眼見此次罷工不比以前第一
宗旨為謀數百華人之利益二為司機
等受英人之苛刻待遇苦不堪言既罷
後公司方面不但毫無覺悟強硬手段
甚於事前吾等早已料到華人中定有
公賊走狗從中作鬼不然外人無此大膽
革除吾等招用俄人使出種種欺壓手段
幸吾等主義懷堅公賊等一計未展空
用機關智罄計窮復利用福音勾串三
個走狗代表通同作弊將吾等幾乎陷入
危險之境幸吾等消息靈通未中你走狗
奸計爾等罪惡已極眾怒難容望更等四走
狗有胆出頭與眾會面大家等自有相當酬謝
否則眾怨難息恐爾等四走狗將入於不利
之地步特此預告

司事 金佑 通上

26:4:30

Intell Section,

Please note
and use in the
usual way.

JKL

772.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

File No.
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
G. D. REGISTRY.
No. L. O. D. 1191...
Date April 25, 1930.

Subject (in full)

Further Report on Strike of Bus Drivers and Conductors.

Made by D.S.I. Crawford

Forwarded by

Sir,

On the 24/4/30, at 3.30 p.m. a letter in Chinese was received at the Bus Depot, Connaught Road, addressed to Mr. Gibbons, Engineer in charge, (the letter and translation attached), in which the drivers put forth their grievances.

Another letter was received by the head clerk in the Traffic Department, under Mr. Chandler, his name is Lok Yung Shien (陸云先), in this letter they state they want him dismissed, as he is too hard on them. This man is assistant to Mr. Chandler and the drivers and conductors are fined by them for mis-deeds.

Conductors 70, 171, 122 and 124 approached Mr. Chandler in the Bus Company's premises and asked him to help them settle the affair, and when he mentioned he would take them to Mr. Benner, they stated it was useless seeing him, as he was always angry with them.

G. Crawford
D.S.I.

Officer i/o.

Special Branch.

JP
26.4.30

Translation of a letter addressed to Loh Yung Shien.

21/4/30.

To Loh Yung Shien,

We know you are a Chinese and we are also Chinese. We are all aware that you have been finding fault with us. You are quite willing to be the running dog of the White People. You have advised the foreigner to oppress our drivers, the wages and gratuities have been "cut" down by the company. You think that yourself are ~~Q~~ wise, so you have flattered the Whites, but what about the "Right". Vivid enquiries have been made as to your notorious actions, and same have been proved to be true. There shall be no successful results unless you ~~are~~ ^{leave} ~~get rid of~~ the company. The brooms and other tools for "wiping" you out of the company, have been ready, and the righteousness and law will come upon you in the near future. Therefore you should think about yourself for these evil acts you have done, and report ⁵ the White people at once as soon as you receive this letter.

There is no question about our jobs as drivers, for we can obtain position in the outposts.

Warning by all drivers.

COPY

(Translation of a letter)

The Engineering Department.

Dear Sir,

The strike is due to the improper management of the Traffic Superintendent who listens to Lok Yung Shien, who urges the superintendent to oppress the workers. The wages and gratuities are not shared equally or in their proper proportion. The chief reason of the strike apart from the above named grievances is against this Lok Yung Shien. We ask for the instant dismissal of Lok Yung Shien. According to the rules of The Bus Co., the drivers are entitled to \$2.00 increase per year, but owing to the unfair policy of the office the extra grant is not paid out as the office always make an excuse that the drivers are too slow or some other excuse. If the management were to meet us in this instance the arrival at a speedy understanding would eventuate. An increase and reasonable distribution of salaries and gratuities in their proper proportion. We object to the uncalled for suspension of drivers for trumped up excuse of the office.

We will call off the strike if the Traffic Superintendent will discuss the questions fairly and honestly. We have no ill feeling towards the Company, but only against those who seem to make a practice of persuading or advising the management against the work of the drivers. To show our goodness to the company (we the drivers) have not asked the mechanics or other servants of the Co. to go on strike in sympathy with us, we do not want this strike to reflect in anyway against Messrs. Gibbons & Lucas as they are in charge of departments which are not affected in anyway with our grievances. We wish to impress that we do not want any action taken by the Head Office against Messrs. Gibbons & Lucas to show our gratitude towards Messrs. Gibbons and Lucas for their painstaking way in which they have taught us how to drive and we have not asked the others to go on strike.

We, the drivers, wish to make quite plain that if no peaceful settlement comes of our strike, the others in the employ of the Company ~~must~~^{must} not in anyway be affected and we will resign.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL pr.
C. I. D. REGIST.
No. 1. O. D. 1191.
Date... 29... 4... 30.

THE SHOWDOWN

Shanghai, 26th April, 1930

THE STRIKE OF THE BUS DRIVERS.

Some months ago it was suggested in the columns of this paper that a special department might be formed in the Municipal Council of the nature of a Labour Department which could take cognizance of labour troubles and disputes in the Settlement, and might act as a useful and sympathetic go-between the differing parties involved.

It still seems to us a desirable innovation, and the recent strike of the drivers of the China General Omnibus Company is a case in point in which such a 'Labour' department might render most useful service to the workmen, to the employers, and to the public alike.

At any rate, it would ensure that the whole circumstances which have led up to the Chinese drivers leaving their jobs and holding up the bus service would be placed before the public, fully and dispassionately.

If the men have legitimate grievances against the circumstances of their employment, these would become known.

On the other hand, if the bus company is treating their men fairly and considerately and their business is being held up by unreasonable or extortionate demands, this also should become known.

The travelling public are concerned in the why's and wherefore's of the strike because of the inconvenience that the enforced stoppage of the buses causes.

There has also been a recent labour trouble in the printing department of our contemporary, the "China Press", and it seems to us that these and kindred labour matters might very well be taken note of by a municipal Labour department with a view to adjusting the differences of the parties involved.

We advocate the formation of such a branch of municipal activities because, very often we feel sure, it would be able to arbitrate and adjust matters without any racial or political feelings being involved, and it could confer benefits on employers and employees alike.

26:4:30

Reg.

Please pass to
B.D.I. Robertson's note
and then file
carefully. I shall
probably have occasion
to ask for this file again
in a day or two.

4/5

JRH

10 D 1191

王飛	楊少偉	李田河	沈振生	李至新
索票 14 號	團賣票 52 號	開車 109 號	開車 廿七 號	志開車 廿七 號
往安南 12 號	往鄧臘 19 號	往杜司非而路 33 號	往杜興路 292 號	往重慶路 477 號

See also
D. R. 4151

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL PR

C. I. D. REGISTER

No. L. O. D. 1191

Date... 27... 12... 30

Mr. Green would like to see
every aspect of the new
house.

Attended to.
John P. P.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

File No.
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
Gordon Road
No. I. O. D. 1191
Date April 25, 1930
Dec. 2, 1930

Subject (in full)

Further Report on strike of Bus Drivers and Conductors.

Made by D.S.I. Crawford

Forwarded by

Sir,

Attached please find the translation of the notice posted outside the front gate of China General Omnibus Company's Depot, and also the names of the Drivers' representatives.:

Kwan Hun Tai (關恩泰), Driver 80, living at Oan Hui Lee Connaught Road, no number.

Zee Kung Zee (徐金屏), Driver 36, 477 Moo Loe Lee, Changkung Road.

Chen Ken Lou (沈根生), driver 37, 292 Kashing Road.

Lee Dai Chang (李代昌), driver 171, 622 Pao An Fong, Gordon Road, this address is not right.

Lee Tien H (李田河), Driver 109, 33 Kung Yee Lee, Jessfield Road. Removed. 公益里

The conductors representatives are as follows:-

Zee Sz Tsao (錢世潮), conductor 22, 6, 44 Poashing Road, Chapei.


Zei Sih Ting (徐錫榮), Conductor, 89, 41 Pont St. Catherine.

Yung Ka Ching (楊家祥), conductor 52, 8 Dent Road.

Jong Fee (王飛), Conductor 14, 126 Annan Road.

Lou Wan An (朱文安), Conductor 102, 1102 Hung Fong Road, Chapei.

Some of the conductors were seen to-day 25/4/30, and were asked to get in touch with drivers, with a view to having them report at the station, but none have come forward yet. The conductors promised they will do their best.


D.S.I.

Copy

NOTICE

19th April, 1930.

The Management regrets the action of the Drivers and Conductors in failing to report for duty this morning.

They realise however that this action is probably due to agitation by a small number of malcontents and for this reason desire to give the absentees the opportunity to resume their duties in order to avoid inconvenience to the Public and loss of wages and other benefits to employees. If any members of the Staff fail to report for duty as usual to-morrow morning:-

All absentees will be considered as desirous of terminating their employment with the Company and can obtain their wages up to April 18th on hand in their Uniforms and equipment.

All Provident Fund balances at the credit of the accounts of absentees will be forfeited in accordance with Rule 5 of the Staff Provident Fund.

The Licenses of all drivers who decide to terminate their employment with the Company will be automatically cancelled.

In view of the pleasant relations which have been maintained for over three years between the Company and the Staff and of the fair and generous treatment accorded to the Staff it is hoped that they will not allow themselves to be influenced and led away by evilly-disposed persons, but will continue to discharge their duties as hitherto.

By Order.

The China General Omnibus Co.
Ltd.

H.S. Benner.

Secretary.

10 D. 1191

The Engineering Department.

Dear Sir,

The strike is due to the improper management of the Traffic Superintendent who listens to Lok Yung Shien who urges the Superintendent to oppress the workers. The wages and gratuities are not shared equally or in their proper proportion. The chief reason of the strike apart from the above named grievances is against this Lok Yung Shien. We ask for the instant dismissal of Lok Yung Shien. According to the rules of the Bus Company the drivers are entitled to \$2.- increase per year, but owing to the unfair policy of the office the extra grant is not paid out, as the office always makes an excuse that the drivers are too slow or some other excuse. If the management were to meet us in this instance the arrival of a speedy understanding would eventuate. An increase and reasonable distribution of salaries and gratuities in their proper proportion. We object to the uncalled for suspension of drivers for trumped up excuses of the office.

We will call off the Strike if the Traffic Superintendent will discuss the question fairly and honestly. We have no ill feeling towards the Company, but only against those who seem to make a practice of persuading or advising the management against the work of the drivers. To show our goodness to the Company (we the drivers) have not asked the mechanics or other servants of the Company to do on strike in sympathy with us. We do not want this strike to reflect in any way against Messrs. Gibbons & Lucas as they are in charge of debts which are not affected in any way with our grievances. We wish to impress

- 2 -

that we do not want any action taken by the Head Office against Messrs. Gibbons & Lucas to show our gratitude towards Messrs. Gibbons & Lucas for their painstaking way in which they have taught us how to drive. We have not asked to go on strike for.

We, the drivers, wish to make quite plain that if no peaceful settlement comes of our strike the other in the employ of the Company must not in any way be affected and we will resign.

File No. 110-222222

O.P. 19/20. 4. 30.
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
General Report
C. I. D. REGISTRATION
No. 100-1191
Date 19/4/30
1930.

Strike of the China General Omnibus Bus Drivers and Conductors
, 43 Cennaught Road.

Made by

D.S.I. Crawford

Forwarded by

Sir,

On the 15th of April, 1930, a deputation of the Bus Drivers presented their demands to Mr. Benner, Manager of the Depot at 43 Cennaught Road in which they demanded a flat rate of \$4.00 increase, and that the accident bonus of \$1.00 be doubled also that the conductors are not fined if they omit to get down from the bus at stopping places, and the rule applied to Drivers be repeated in which they have to stop the engine of the Bus at the terminal for two minutes.

The company granted them an increase of \$2.00 on salaries of \$20. to \$30., and \$3.00 on salaries of \$30. to \$50., but refused to give more or to repeat the orders in regard to Conductors and Bus Drivers, getting down from the bus and drivers stopping engines. These demands contained a three days limit, but on the 18/4/30, they decided to give another days grace.

On the 18/4/30, they were told that their demands would not be met, and after consultation ~~in~~ in the Companies premises, gave intimation to Mr. Benner that they would strike on the 19/4/30, which they did, none of the Drivers or Conductors turning up for work.

A Bus which is used to convey the conductors and Drivers from the Eastern district leaves Muirhead Road at 5.30 a.m. every morning, and this bus was stopped at Thibet and Nanking Roads corner, and the Drivers and Conductors who were in the bus all left the bus at this place, a number of Drivers and Conductors who live in Frenchtown meet this bus every morning. No rough play was indulged in. The bus returning to the Depot empty.

At 8 a.m. the 19/4/30, the fitters and inside workers arrived at the Depot by Bus, and commenced their respective jobs.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

Station.

Date

19 .

ject (in full)

Strike of bus Drivers and Conductors -2-

Made by

Forwarded by

-2-

Nothing untoward has happened at the Depot.

Altogether there are 480 Drivers and Conductors on strike.

As far as can be ascertained the meetings were held in hotels in Dongkew district.

E. Crawford

D.S.I.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT.

REPORT ON STRIKE

Garden Road Station.

April 19, 1930.

Time and date reported 6 a.m. 19/4/30 Time and date I.O. informed 6.30 a.m. 19/4/30.

By whom reported Mr. Benner, British Manager of Bus Depot.

Trade or profession of strikers Bus Drivers and Conductors.

Number of strikers 480 Male - Female - Apprentices

Employer's name, address and business China General Omnibus Coy, 43 Cernaught Road.

Union to which strikers belong

Cause of strike and demands made by strikers Demanding an increase of salary. The Drivers want a \$4.00 increase, and double bonus for a month clear of accidents.

When did discontent amongst strikers first commence 15th April, 1930.

What action (if any) did employers take to remedy cause of discontent prior to commencement of strike Gave them an increase of \$2.00 on salaries from \$20. to \$30. and \$3.00 to those whose salaries are \$30. to \$50.00.

What action (if any) have the employers taken to meet the demands of the strikers Refuse to agree to their demands.

Names and addresses of strike leaders --

Has the strike or its cause any political inspiration No.

Meeting places of strikers --

Number of persons arrested for offences arising out of strike --

Particulars of literature (if any) circulated relative to strike Three pamphlets calling on the Drivers and Conductors to strike found on the premises.

Name and address of printer of such circulars -

Precautions taken by Police Police are keeping watch in the vicinity of the Bus Depot.

SENIOR DET. I/C.	DEPUTY I/C.	D. C. L.	I. O.

NOTE. "Further" reports should be submitted on the usual Report form.

Extract from Intelligence Report D.R.440

240 drivers and a similar number of ^{*of India General Committee Co.*} conductors failed to turn up for duty this morning. It appears that three representatives of the drivers on April 15 petitioned the Management for betterment in the increase (8 - 10%) of wages already intimated as coming into force from April 1 and that safety bonus (free from accident) be issued at double the present rate. A demand was also made that the Company give a favourable reply within three days otherwise the drivers would go on strike. On April 18 the three representatives were called to the Company's Office, Cennaught Road and informed that after due consideration of the petition the management could not accede to the demands.

Prior to April 1, the pay of the drivers ranged from \$25 to \$30 plus safety bonus of \$1.00 for the 1st month, \$2.00 for the second and \$3.00 (Max.) for the third.

The dispute so far has not extended to the depot workers, of whom there are about 350, - Inspectors (70) or Regulators (35). The bus services are paralyzed but so far there has been no disorder.

ROUGH Translation of a letter received from Omnibus Drivers

April 23rd 1930.

C. I. D. REGISTER

No. 10 D. 1191

April

24-4-30
1930.

Inspector-in-charge,

Gordon Road Police Station.

Sir,

*See also
D.R. 441*

We beg to submit you the reason of our strike, as we have been employed by the China General Omnibus Co. for some years and have to learn that when the said company was beginning they have only a few buses running for traffic and now have been increased to more than hundred buses. This is easy to know that their business carried on with profit and our salary is still as usual, but not only without increase of our pay, yet reduced our bonus and also issued some illtreat conditions. We were discussing to request the company to revise the said conditions and it was discovered by the company therefore they proposed a notice for a small increase, this is only to cover the eyes and ears of outsiders. They limit the drivers a definite time from place to place and they count for a monthly average of a correct time. In case of a little delay or fast both will be fined from our pay and also will cut off our duty for some days during which time we are forced to enter the learning school and to do some unpaid work. When we were driving buses on the crowded roads which we should drive slowly as to avoid accidents and it is naturally to be a little delay but we will be fined for incorrect of time. Recently everything is dearer than before we therefore request the company to have our pay increased but without any effect, we are therefore compelled to strike from our work on 19-4-30 as to request the company to reform the treatment and we will return to our work as soon as the arrangement is made. We will not make any disturbances and to break public peace.

The following is requirement of the Drivers.

- (1) Salary from \$23.00 to \$50.00 to be increased \$4.00 as rice allowance.
- (2) Bonus
 - 1 month good work \$2.00
 - 2 month good work \$4.00
 - 3 month good work \$6.00
 - 1 year good work \$24.00

Continuation.

- (3) In the event of the driver doing wrong he must not be taken from the bus to enter the school and he must also receive his usual pay accordingly.
- (4) If not driving to correct time the driver is not to be fined and driving too fast will be fined.
- (5) Drivers of old style buses to learn the new style buses they will change over each other.

Employees of the China
General Omnibus Co.

Memorandum

POLICE FORCE,
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Shanghai.

23 - 4 - 1930

To D. C. Davis

Attached is a
letter received by the S. Y.
L. R. from the Omnibus
Co. strikers. Rough
translation also attached.

S. Y. L. R.

DC Crime & Special
Branch

Inform.
[Signature]

APR 23 1930

DC Davis

Memorandum.

POLICE FORCE.
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

f

Shanghai.

24:4: 1930

To

Reg.

Please pass
to B.D.I. Robertson
to note and then
file.

[Signature]

[Handwritten mark]